

We cannot just keep spending more and more, not when, as the senior Senator from West Virginia said recently, “[m]illions of jobs are open, supply chains are strained, and unavoidable inflation taxes are draining workers’ hard-earned wages as the price of gasoline and groceries continues to climb.”

Out-of-control spending is how we got here in the first place, and the longer we keep at it, the worse it is going to get. Some Democrats are fond of saying that this bill will cost zero dollars because, well, it might be paid for through new taxes. The truth is that their plan would create trillions of dollars in new entitlements, and even if they do find a way to pay for it, which I doubt, that doesn’t mean it is free. That money has to come from somewhere, and the Joint Committee on Taxation has shown that two-thirds of Democrats’ proposed new tax burdens—they would fall on the lower and the middle class of this country.

I wish I could say the outrageous pricetag is the only thing wrong with the Democrats’ tax-and-spend boondoggle, but what is actually in their plan might even be more irresponsible. It would allow the IRS to snoop on Americans’ bank accounts if their inflows and their outflows exceed \$10,000 per year.

Now, that is a lot of money, but let’s put it in perspective. Federal agents would get to see your house and car payments, how much you spend on groceries and gas, heating bills, school costs for your kids, and everything else that you spend in a year just to get by. So spending over \$10,000 a year on these essentials that are in our lives, they would let the IRS be in just about every American’s bank account.

Democrats’ plan would also expand green energy tax credits for wealthy Americans so they can buy expensive electric vehicles they can already afford. A millionaire can buy the most expensive new Tesla for \$150,000, and under what the senior Senator from Oregon has proposed, they will be able to claim a tax credit worth \$12,500. Nebraska taxpayers don’t need to be subsidizing new electric cars for rich Americans.

And maybe worst of all, the House plan does not include the Hyde amendment, which Republicans and Democrats have agreed on for decades. If the radical left succeeds in taking that out, taxpayers will be required to pay for abortions for the first time in more than 40 years.

The American people have been watching this country bounce from crisis to crisis to crisis, and after so many disasters in a row, one poll shows that President Biden’s approval rating is down to just 37 percent. Barely a third of Americans approve of the job this President is doing, and a majority say this administration is not competent.

That should tell President Biden that his agenda isn’t as popular in the rest of America as it is in the beltway bubble. But, instead, the President is forg-

ing ahead with more Federal Government controls.

There is now even talk of a Federal vaccine mandate. The government is going to twist an obscure labor law beyond recognition to force Americans to take that vaccine.

I believe in the vaccines. I believe they are safe and effective and we should be encouraging people to choose to get vaccinated, but the government—the government—simply has no business requiring Americans to do it. Under the President’s new Executive order, businesses with more than 100 employees are being forced to comply with the vaccine mandate or submit employees to weekly testing; otherwise, they will risk losing crucial employees.

I recently signed on to a letter led by the junior Senator from Alaska that urges the President to reconsider. There is absolutely no precedent in American history for a Federal vaccine requirement, and President Biden will be on entirely new legal ground if he moves ahead with this.

One of the most unsettling things I have seen from this administration wasn’t something that they said or did; it was something that they left unsaid. When Jen Psaki broke the news that the Federal Government was going to try to force through this mandate, she smiled. In response to a reporter who asked if the President had the power to enforce vaccination for private employees—not Federal contractors, private employees—she said, “Yes. Stay tuned.” And then she grinned.

Without saying anything, she showed that the Biden administration is relishing this chance to push the limits of Executive power. When you take that together with the incompetence that has been on display since January, from the Afghanistan debacle to the crisis at our southern border, to our administration’s complete disregard for how inflation is devastating hard-working families and the poor in our country, I think you start to get a good idea of what the Biden administration is all about.

They are going to trample on the Constitution to advance a radical left agenda that is truly unprecedented in American history, and they don’t care how many disasters they continue to create.

Thank you.

Madam President, I would ask consent that the 5:15 vote occur immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the

Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 368, Hampton Y. Dellinger, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Charles E. Schumer, Ben Ray Lujan, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher A. Coons, Elizabeth Warren, John Hickenlooper, Jacky Rosen, Brian Schatz, Tammy Baldwin, Patrick J. Leahy, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Richard Blumenthal, Benjamin L. Cardin, Catherine Cortez Masto, Cory A. Booker, Raphael Warnock, Alex Padilla.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Hampton Y. Dellinger, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Attorney General, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, and nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 440 Ex.]

#### YEAS—51

Baldwin	Heinrich	Padilla
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Peters
Blumenthal	Hirono	Reed
Booker	Kaine	Rosen
Brown	Kelly	Sanders
Cantwell	King	Schatz
Cardin	Klobuchar	Schumer
Carper	Leahy	Shaheen
Casey	Lujan	Sinema
Collins	Manchin	Smith
Coons	Markey	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Tester
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murkowski	Warnock
Gillibrand	Murphy	Warren
Graham	Murray	Whitehouse
Hassan	Ossoff	Wyden

#### NAYS—45

Barrasso	Grassley	Portman
Blackburn	Hagerty	Risch
Blunt	Hawley	Romney
Boozman	Hoeben	Rubio
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Burr	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Capito	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Lummis	Tillis
Crapo	Marshall	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Tuberville
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	Young

#### NOT VOTING—4

Cruz	Rounds
Feinstein	Warner

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 51 and the nays are 45.

The motion is agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Hampton Y.